



BY THE KING.

A Proclamation for preventing the Plundring, Spoyling, or Robbing of any His Majesties Subjects, and for restraining of stragling and Idle People from following the Army, as likewise for supplying His Majesties Army with necessary provisions during their March.



HEREAS by Our gracious Proclamation of the twenty fifth of *November* last past, We took notice of the great misery and ruine falling, and likely to fall upon Our good Subjects (if not timely prevented) by the Plundring, Spoyling and Robbing of their Houses, and taking from them their Mony, Plate, Householdstuffs, Horses, Cattell, and other goods, in detestation of which barbarous, and unlawfull proceedings, and in tender commiseration of the sufferings of Our People, We did then declare, That if any either Officer or Souldier of Our Army of Horse or Foot should from henceforth, Plunder, Spoyle, or Robbe, any of Our People, or take from them any of their Mony, Plate, Householdstuffs, Horses, or other Cattell, as likewise any Victuall, or Commodities going to, or from Our Markets, upon complaint made thereof, the Commander, or Officer in Chiefe of such Quarter where the fact was committed, was required to proceed against any such Offendor, by the Law Martiall, without favour or connivance, and to cause him or them, so offending, to be executed without mercy (as in and by the same Proclamation more at large appeareth,) Not withstanding which, to the great and heavy grievance and oppression of Our People, We find that Our Commands therein have not been (as We expected) streightly observed. And having lately received Information that the greatest part of these Plunderings and Robberies committed on Our people, especially by the taking away of Horses and other Cattell in the severall Marches and expeditions of Our Forces, are committed and done by Persons noway listed, or imployed in Our service, or under any Command, and by Voluntiers out of other Troopes, not commanded upon present service, following Our Army for Spoyle and Pillage; We doe therefore charge and Command all persons whatsoever, but such as are or shall be licensed by the superior Officers of Our Army, or such of Our good Subjects as shall offer their service for Our assistance, and be received into Our Army upon their March, or as shall be of such Forces, as shall be sent upon any expedition, that they forbear to follow, or attend Our Army or forces, or to take away any Mony, Plate, Goods, Horses or Cattell from any of Our Subjects whatsoever: And if any shall offend, Spoyle, Robbe, Pillage, or Plunder, in the least kind, contrary to this Our Proclamation, or take any Horse, Mony, Plate, or other goods, from any of Our Subjects without especiall warrant of their superior Officer then commanding Our said Army, We doe require and Command all the Officers and Souldiers of Our Army, and all other Our Officers and loving Subjects, to apprehend him or them so offending against this Our Proclamation, and to bring them before the Commander in chiefe of such Army or Forces, whom We require and authorize forthwith to cause him or them, so offending, to be hanged without mercy, and to see that restitution be made to such person, or persons, as received such losse by the taking away any of their goods or Cattell, in the best manner Our Commander in chiefe, or such Officer shall be able to performe; This We require and Command to be fully and in every part obeyed, that thereby Our good Subjects may be freed from misery and ruine, or the least apprehension thereof, and may without any interruption proceed in following their severall callings and professions, to the welfare and happinesse of Our Kingdom and Our Army, and that the officers thereof may have the reputation of doing Iustice, and giving help and assistance to Our people. And Our further will and pleasure is, That this Our Proclamation be publicquely read in all Churches and Chappells of this Our Kingdom, and in the heads of all Our Regiments of Horse, Foot, and Dragoons. And as We have published this Our Proclamation for the protection of the Goods and Estates of all Our loving Subjects, so we expect that all such Counties, Hundreds, Townes, and Villages in, or neere which any part of Our Army shall happen to be Quartered upon their March, shall upon warrants from the superior Officer, or from the Commissaries of Our Army, furnish and supply Our forces, so passing through or neere them, with all necessary provisions of victualls and other accommodation both for Horse and Foot, (for which they are to give tickets or receipts, which We shall carefully pay when God shall enable Us,) that so the Souldier for want of necessary provisions may not have any pretence to offer any injury to any of Our good Subjects, whose ease and security shall alwaies be Our principall care. *Given at Our Court at OXFORD, this Seventeenth day of March, in the Eighteenth yeare of Our Raigne.*

God Save the KING.